

JOE C. SANDERS + MASTER IMAGE, INC.
2714 20TH STREET S, SUITE B + BIRMINGHAM, AL 35209

July 19, 2016

Chairman Tom Wheeler
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Business Data Services in an Internet Protocol Environment, WC Docket No. 16-143;
Special Access Rates for Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers, WC Docket No. 05-25

Chairman Wheeler:

Business data services are an important part of our modern economy. I am glad to see the FCC focused on the market for these services. Right now, there are two companies that control this market. This lack of competition is bad for businesses like mine. That is why I am strongly urging the FCC to investigate this situation and do something to increase competition.

My business is Master Image, Inc. As is the case with many businesses in Alabama, we rely on business data services to transmit vital information, perform credit card transactions, and more. Unfortunately, we are charged too much for these services. This overcharging, which amounts to billions of dollars a year across the nation, is due to the uncompetitive situation that exists in this market.

It is time for the FCC to implement a new regulatory framework for business data services. This framework should encourage competition. Only through opening the market to new providers will consumers see relief. The new rules should also encourage innovation in new products. We don't know what new technology could emerge with more competition, and the FCC's rules should not stifle the evolution of the market.

With this type of regulatory framework, business owners in Alabama and throughout the U.S. will finally see a business data services market that works for us. Right now, this market only works for the two large companies that control it.

I appreciate your willingness to take on this issue. Please do not delay any further in determining exactly what is wrong in the market and taking steps to fix these problems. Small business owners are counting on you to do the right thing.

Sincerely,


Joey Sanders